SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PAUL: Sir, so far, there is no such proposal.

*244. *[The questioner (Shri Nabam Rebia) was absent. For answer vide page 40]*

Performance of private power companies in Delhi

*245. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that private companies to whom distribution of power in Delhi had been assigned with effect from 1 st July, 2002 have ushered in a state of indecision in regard to granting new connections, taking decision on aspects relating to granting connections to co-operative societies, tariff sharing between consumer and these companies etc.;

(b) whether Government have made any assessment of the performance of these companies in Delhi *vis-a-vis* the difficulties faced by consumers; and

(c) if so, what assistance has been given to State Government of Delhi before the experiment is tried elsewhere?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The issue relating to granting of new connections including connections to co-operative societies and sharing of efficiency gains between the consumers and the licensees are covered respectively in the Performance Standards (Metering and Billing) Regulations issued by the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) and the policy directions issued by the Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi.

(b) and (c) Under the provisions of the Delhi Electricity Reform Act, 2000, DERC has the responsibility of specifying and monitoring performance standards of the distribution licensees in Delhi. After one year's experience, the Government of NCT and Delhi has asked the DERC to institutionalize objective mechanisms for assessing the performance

of the Distribution Companies on various issues, with a view to providing better quality service to the consumers.

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Mr. Chairman, sir, the answer is not related to the question which I have asked. I want to know, after the privatisation of distribution of power in Delhi, whether the Government has made any assessment of the difficulties experienced by the consumers in getting connections. One year is over. What is the assessment of the Delhi Government, as far as privatisation is concerned? I would to know whether new connections are being given. That reply is not there. I would be grateful to the hon. Minister, if he informs the House.

श्री अनंत गंगाराम गीते: सभापति जी, बिजली का वितरण पूर्णतः राज्यों का विषय है। दिल्ली प्रदेश की सरकार ने वितरण का निजीकरण किया है। जितनी भी शिकायतें आती हैं, इन शिकायतों को कम करने के लिए सभी राज्यों ने राज्य विद्युत नियामक आयोग का गठन किया है। इन राज्य विद्युत नियामक आयोग से मुझे जानकारी मिली है, उसके अध्यक्ष से मेरी बात हुई और मुझे उन्होंने जानकारी दी है कि पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में दिल्ली में बिजली वितरण में कुछ सुधार आया है। इस प्रकार की उनकी राय है।

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: My second supplementary is: What are the number of requests for granting connections pending with different zones and the dates of such requests? This information should be furnished.

श्री अनन्त गंगाराम गीते: सभापति जी, यह राज्यों का विषय होने के नाते मेरे पास ज्यादा जानकारी नहीं है। लेकिन मैं राज्य सरकार से जानकारी मंगवा कर माननीय सदस्य को भिजवा दूंगा।

MoU signed between PGCI and State Grid Corporation of China

*246. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:†

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation of India limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with State Grid Corporation of China on 9th July, 2003;

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri K. Natwar Singh.